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## **MOBILE COUNTY'S OLD WHISTLER CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Old Whistler Cemetery in Whistler to the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

"The cemetery register is a prestigious listing of historic cemeteries in Alabama," said Lee Anne Wofford, cemetery program coordinator. "The AHC considers the notable historic cemeteries in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition."

There are now 33 cemeteries in Mobile County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 313 cemeteries statewide.

Old Whistler Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Mobile County. The earliest burial in the cemetery is that of I.W. Davidson who died in 1828. Additional space for the cemetery was obtained in 1851 when Jacob Magee donated land to the Village of Whistler. Over the years, two annexes have been added to the cemetery.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Historic Cemetery Program that gives aid to the general public, government officials, civic groups, and others in identifying, documenting, registering, and conserving Alabama's historic cemeteries.

The Alabama Historic Cemetery Register officially recognizes and honors family and community cemeteries that were established at least 40 years ago.

Listing in the state cemetery register is an honorary designation imposing no restrictions on property owners. State law protects all cemeteries from willful desecration and destruction.

*To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places is the mission of the **Alabama Historical Commission**, the **State Historic Preservation Office**.*

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